THE

HISTORY

OF

PARISMUS,

Prince of Bohemia.

CONTAINING,

His battles over the Perſians, his dan-
ers in the Iſle of Rocks, his adventures
n the Deſolate Iſland, and his love to
he beautiful Laurana.

To which is added,

The adventures and travels of Pariſ-
nenos, the knight of Fame; with his
ve to the fair Princeſs Angelica, Lady
f the Golden Tower.

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The HISTORY of

PARISMUS OF BOHEMIA

CHAP. I.

Parismus arrives in Thessaly, and gets sight of Laurana.

PARISMUS, son and heir to the King of Bohemia, led by the fame of Laurana, daughter to the King of Thessaly resolved to pay a visit to the court Thebes. Nor did fame lead him on for Sicanus Prince of Persia, accompanied by the King and Queen of Hungary the Prince of Sparta, and Lady Isabell came hither on the same account. King Dionisius entertained them all with like courtesy but Laurana conceived an inclination rather to like Parismus than Sicanus, who seeing the former enter the palace, asked her chambermaid Leda concerning him; and from that moment began to find herself wounded.

That day the King entertained them with a very splendid dinner which ende

the company retired into the gardens, where Parisinus singled out his friend Oristus, and in a moving discourse told him his grief for not seeing the beautiful Laurana, who kept herself retired.

Oristus promised with speed to procure the sight and speech of her, by the interest he had with Lord Remus, a great favourite.

The next morning all the court went out a hunting, except Oristus & the said Lord, who walked in the gardens, where they met the lovely Princess with her maid taking the air. Having been saluted by these nobles, she retired to her apartment, which Oristus took particular notice of, and told Parisinus when he came home, who taking a book, re-

paired to the terras walk under the win-
dow Laurana was at that time looking
out of, and the Prince had a compleat
view of her; which she espying, hastily
shut the window, and through the cre-
vices had as full a sight of him. In short
they were both wounded, and loved each
other: and Parismus feigned himself sick
the better to meditate how to win this
fair Lady.

CHAP. II.

Parismus discovers his Love to Laurana.

LAURANA's birth-day being come, Olivia prepared a banquet; all the court were present, only Parismus, whose supposed illness was lamented by Laurana. While he was in contemplation, a set of Masquers entered in this manner, First, Two Moors dress in white sattin, with torches; after them as many eunuchs in cloaths of gold playing on wind musick; then appeared Parismus, in a

beautiful disguise, dancing a sarabaud; next followed Oristus, Remus, and some other Bohemian Knights, who performed their parts to admiration. Parismus took Laurana out to dance Lord Remus took out Lady Isabella, Oristus another Spartan Lady, &c. so that all dancing together in a figure dance Parismus made himself known to Laurana; and pulling off his mask put all the court into joy. So sitting down to the banquet, Parismus and Laurana very often glanced at each other, which Sicanus observing, grew jealous, urging the King of Hungary and Prince of Sparta to solicit to her father for him. The King readily consented to the grief of Parismus and Laurana.

Early on the next morning, Prarismus walking under Laurana's window, gave her maid the following letter to give to her mistress:

"Most excellent Mistress,

"If the contents of this paper be presumption, it is the excess of my love must be the excuse. Pardon me Madam, that I dare be so confident once more to beg the favour of kissing your royal hand, at such a time and place as you

shall think convenient; for since the unhappy time of your departure, I have not enjoyed the least thought to my satisfaction, but the remembrance of having once seen you, and the resolution of ever being, Madam, at your command.

PARISMUS."

To which Laurana returned the following answer:

"Most noble Prince,

"I look upon your love to be like to yourself honourable; and if so, neither is it in itself a fault, nor to render it presumption.—My maid will tell you at what time and place you may expect to meet me, which is argument of the confidence reposed in you, by

LAURANA."

The next day the King sent for his daughter, to tell her of Sicanus, desiring her to consider of it; she answered her father with mildness, but received Sicanus' visits with a cold indifference.

CHAP. III.

Sicanus hires three Tartars to murder Parisinus, and the discovery thereof.

SICANUS thinking Parisinus to be his only rival, hired these three Tartars to kill him, who set upon him as he was at a hawking match, being separated from his company, and wounded him in several places, and then covering him with moss, left him for dead. Night coming on, and Parisinus being missing, some valiant knights went out in search of him, who finding his horse, gave him over for lost. It is impossible to express the grief of Laurana, and all the Thessalonian court. But the murder soon came out, for the villains quarreling about dividing the money, and one of them being wounded to death, sent for Oristus and told him the whole affair, and who was their employer. Oristus charged Sicanus with this treason before the King, which so enraged Sicanus, that he attempted to stab him; but was prevented. This caused a tumult between the Per-

sian and Bohemian Knights, which being appeased, Sicanus and his followers fled to Persia, except the King of Hungary, and Prince of Sparta, who detested this horrid villainy. And now King Dionisius having, like a pilgrim, left his court unknown, and travelled to Bohemia, and there discovered himself to the King declaring his grief for the death of his son; desiring his assistance to revenge so horrid a murder; which the good King promised, and prevailed with Dionisius to stay in his court certain days.

CHAP. IV.

Sicanus invades Theſſally; the Kings of Bohemia and Hungary come to relieve it. The exploits of the Black Knight, and the matter decided by 3 valiant Champions on each ſide.

SICANUS complaining to his father of divers affronts offered him, the King of Perſia raiſed an army of two hundred thouſand men, and landed on the confines of Theſſally, the news of which being ſoon carried to Queen Olivia, ſhe committed the care of her kingdom to Lord Remus, who with his forces ſlew twenty thouſand of the Perſians at their landing; but being overpowered, was obliged to make his retreat into the city, which the enemy beſieged on every ſide. This much terrified the queen, but in the midſt of her fears came a Knight in black armour & challenged the whole Perſian hoſt, overthrowing Bruſter, with two other noble Perſian Knights, and performing great wonders; then returning to his cell, the Queen and Laurana ſent a page to invite him to the city, but

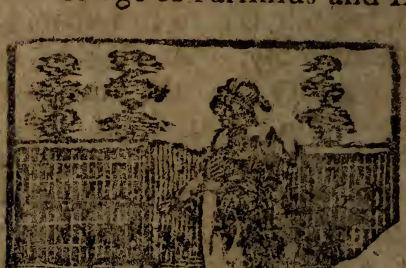
e modeſtly refuſed, adding, that time
ight give him an opportunity of de-
aring himſelf.—Soon after arrived the
ings of Bohemia and Hungary with
pplies to his relief; with whom was
ing Dioniſius, who ſent word of his
fe arrival to his Queen. Several battles
ing fought on both ſides, it was at laſt
ferred to a combat of three Knights on
ther ſide. The conditions were, that
the three Perſian Knights conquered,
aurana ſhould then be given in mar-
age to Sicanus, and Dioniſius ſubject-
to the crown of Perſia; but if they
ere conquered, they ſhould depart to
eir own country, and Sicanus to de-
lare what he knew of the murder of
arinus. In twenty days the combat
as to begin, during which time the Black
Knight came to try his manhood; and
here he found Pollipus his friend, who
e invited to his cell, declaring himſelf to
e Pariſmus, and how he was preſerved
y an outlaw. So Pollipus and he both
etermined to be Laurana's champions
nd the outlaw to be another. Pariſmus
rote unto the court accordingly, and
n the day of combat encountered with

Bruſſer, Brander, and Ranon; the latte
of whom killed the poor outlaw; bu
the Perſian Knights were all ſlain by th
Black Knight and Pollipus: Whereupo
the King of Perſia commanded his arm
to withdraw, and Sicanus to declar
what he knew of the murder; who re
plied, By the reverence I owe to my Lor
and Father, and to this honourable a
ſembly, I denounce him a villain an
traitor that does accuſe me of the mu
der of Pariſmus—By the ſame reve
rence to this noble aſſembly, ſaid th
Black knight, I return that villain an
traitor upon thyſelf! for thou didſt hir
three Tartars to murder him as he wa
hawking, who after wounding him, le
him for dead, in which deplorable con
dition I found him; all this I am read
to juſtify, and as thou art a Knight, now
ſhew thy innocence by thy courage, an
I will anſwer thee immediately. Sica
nus accepted the challenge, and with
drew to prepare himſelf, and, as was
ſuppoſed, entered the liſts, whom the
Black knght at the firſt ſet unhorſed, ha
ving broke a couple of his ribs; when
the company unlacing his helmet to

give him breath, found that it was not Sicanus, but a perſon he had hired in his ſtead, which was ſo ill reſented by the whole aſſembly, that they all concluded him guilty; and the king of Perſia diſowned him for his ſon, ſo that between grief and ſhame, in a ſhort time after he died.—The victors were carried in great triumph through the city where to their great amazement the Black knight diſcovered himſelf, with the manner of his delivery. So great was the joy of Laurana, that as ſhe entered the chamber, ſhe fainted away; but recovering, found herſelf in the arms of her dear Parſinus.

CHAP. V.

The marriage of Parifmus and Laurana.



PARISMUS and Laurana were ſoon after married, & the King of Bohemia returning to his kingdom, was accompanied by them; but a ſtorm ariſing ſeparated Pariſmus' ſhip from his fathers who with ſome difficulty obtained his own ſhore. After the ſtorm they were boarded by pirates, who were overcome by the valour of Pariſmus and Pollipus.

It muſt be remembered, that a merchant's daughter, who loved the Prince before marriage, and who was Violetta was in the ſhip as a page diſguiſed; for having fled from her father's houſe, had entertained Pariſmus in Laurana's ſervice: and poor Pollipus often lamented

his dear Violetta, for ſo was her name but now changed to Adonius. Having overcome the pirates, the prince, Pollibus and Adonius, went aſhore to refreſh themſelves, leaving the priſoners under hatches, with a few men to guard them. But they broke up, burnt their own ſhip

for fear of a purſuit, & ſailed away with the Princeſs and her maid Leda. Pariſnus returning with veniſon, and ſeeing them gone, could hardly refrain himſelf; but was comforted by a hermit, who invited him to his cell.—By this time the Princeſs Laurana was brought by the pirates to the Iſland of rocks, and delivered to Adramart the Governor, who would have forced her to his luſtful embraces; but not prevailing, he left her

to his ſiſter Adamaſia, who tortured he with heavy ſtripes to compel her to it.— Here Laurana was delivered of a youn ſon, whom ſhe named Pariſmenos; an Adamaſia threatning to kill it, was pre vented by the nurſe, who fled with th child into the wilderneſs. In the mea time, the diſconſolate Prince and Polli pus, and the pretty page Adonius, hi unknown Violetta, having refreſhe themſelves, the hermit told them the were then in the deſolate iſland, of whic he was once a king, but depoſed by th enchantments of Bellona, a ſorcereſ and her paramour Drubal. Theſe wer overcome by the valour of two heroes and Antiothus, the hermit reſtored t his kingdom.—At laſt they were take priſoners, and enchanted faſt aſleep; bu Bellona beholding the beauty of Pariſ mus, looſed him in hopes of his embra ces; but he twiſted her neck round tha ſhe died, and then releaſed the captiv queen and her children; ſo a flag wa hung out to invite ſhips to that port where ſoon a veſſel from Hungary ar rived, the captain named Barzillus, wit whom they went, and ſo left Antioch

CHAP. VI.

Parisinus rescues Laurana, and of the actions of his Son Parismenos.

THEY had not sailed far, when Andramart's pirates furiously attacked them again; but being overcome, Parismus put them to the sword, except one or two, who informed him of Laurana, and promised to conduct him to her if he would venture Soon did they arrive at the Island of Rocks, where Andramart being arrived from hunting, at his castle gate, they slew him and six servants, then entered the castle, and surprized and killed his men, by the help of Brazillus; and the rest submitted.

The Prince searching about for Laurana, found her in a chamber with her maid Leda, in a sad condition; but who can tell the joy she conceived to behold her dear lord? To him she told all her sufferings, especially the loss of her Parismenos. Soon after they took shipping and arrived in Bohemia: Where Violetta seeing the great constancy of her

lover Pellipus, who vowed to search the world for her, discovered herself, and they were married with great splendor, to general satisfaction.

We will now return to Parisnus, wh by this time was grown to some years It happened that as he & his nurse wer in the wood, a huge lion set upon her and killed her, but fawned on Parisnus who went that night to his den, and la with him. When he was asleep the nurs seemed to appear to him, bidding hi

o go to the caſtle of Andramart, where he ſhould know his parentage. So going there the next day, the pirate took him aboard, and ſoon after a ſtorm ariſing, the ſhip was loſt, and all on board periſhed except Pariſmus, who was caſt ashore at Thrace, and was entertained by Duke Armelanus, whoſe fair daughter, Philena, he won at a tournament, yet he reſtored her to a Thracian Knight, her firſt and deareſt lover. Pariſmus was adviſed to this by Venus, who ſhewed him in a dream the fair picture of a beautiful Lady, ſaying to him theſe words:

Sir Knight of fame, of Kingly race begot,
This lady for thy princeſs I allot,
Whoſe name is Lybian, of Natolean land,
Thou with long ſearch at laſt ſhalt underſtand.

Having taken leave of Thrace, Pariſmus, now called the Knight of Fame, came to a pleaſant valley, where he laid himſelf down to reſt. Juſt at this time

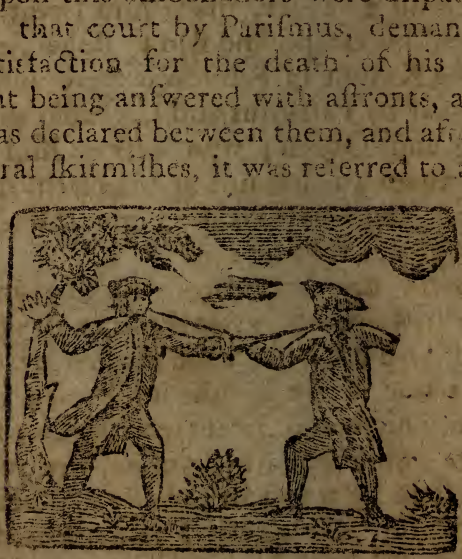
Angelica, the daughter of Maximus, King of Natolia having that day forsaken the Golden Tower, to meet her father, passed by, and spying Parismenos, supposing he had been dead, sent a Knight to see who he was; on his being suddenly waked, and beholding her before him, he was convinced it was she he had seen in the vision, so he joined with her train. Soon after she dropped her glove, which the Knight of Fame perceiving, flung himself from his horse, and with due reverence presented it to her Highness, who gave it him for his pains. This favor being greatly envied by Lord Collimus, he commanded him to surrender it; but instead of a compliance found a repulse, being overthrown in the sight of fair Angelica; and the King coming up that instant, invited the Knight of Fame to his court. An opportunity he now got to offer his vows to Angelica; who very soon beheld him with gracious eyes. There was a prophecy that her marriage should be the occasion of her father's death; which caused the King very strictly to guard her in the Golden Tower from all addresses of that kind;

being informed of the pretensions of he Knight of fame, he immediately imriſoned his daughter, and caſt him in- o the lion's den; where thoſe beaſts reuſed to offer the leaſt violence to ſuch royal prey. The keeper coming the ext day to the den, was amazed to ſee im alive: but the Knight of Fame natching a dagger, made him ſwear to onceal his eſcape, and fled to Bohemia.

The Knight of Fame was here nobly eceived by Pariſmus and Laurana, then King and Queen; who deſired him to ive them an account of his birth, paentage, and adventures; upon which e began as follows:

As for my adventures, the dangers I have paſt are many: and the ſmall actns I have done made me known by the he name of the knight of Fame; but or my birth and parentage I cannot ſay nuch; only that when young, my nurſe vas ſlain by a lion in the Iſle of Rocks; nd before her death I remember ſhe harged me to keep this jewel, which as my mother's; and I think ſhe ſomeimes called me Pariſmenos. Laurana

about his neck, and with King Parifmus welcomed their fon whom they fuppofe was flain. This joy was univerfal, onl the lofs of Angelica made Parifmenc grieve fo much, that he at laft told h parents the occafion, and the ufage h met with from the King of Natolia -- Upon this ambaffadors were difpatche to that court by Parifmus, demandin fatisfaction for the death of his fon but being anfwered with affronts, a wa was declared between them, and afte r f veral fkirmifhes, it was referred to a fi



gle combat between Lord Collimus an Parifmus, when after a fierce battle wit the two champions, the latter got the vi

ory where upon he declared to Angelica's father his escape, and demanded his daughter in marriage; which at such a juncture the King of Natolia, though not willing to grant, yet knew not how to deny; so that the being sent for into the field, the two happy lovers were united, to their unspeakable satisfaction.

But in vain do poor mortals endeavor to avoid the decrees of fate; for in the tilts and tournaments performed in honour of the nuptials, by the fall of an overloaded scaffold, divers people, and particularly King Maximus, were killed. This disaster put a present damp upon those splendid solemnities, till time and better consideration had rendered the mourners obedient unto the unavoidable laws of destiny, and then prince Parismus having married the undoubted and lawful heiress of Natolia, was joyfully received, and crowned King of that potent country, and having settled his affairs & magnificently treated his father, he, at last was forced to take his leave of him; who with honour and full satisfaction, returned with his troops to his own dominions, leaving Parismenos possessed of

a mighty crown, and the far more valuable society of his dear Angelica; between whom there was got a race of heroes, whose renowned actions shall in future ages deserve a larger history than this; to which our pen unwillingly subscribes an end for the present.

Whoever takes this little book in view,
May know what sufferings lovers does go through,
And by the way reflect upon and see
What just rewards attends on constancy
Such bright examples here you'll find,
That far surpass the race of human kind.

FINIS.